GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:263
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2008
REGIONAL IMBALANCES WITHIN STATES
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study/survey to detect regional imbalances that exist within each State of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for the regional imbalances that exist in various States despite implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes;

(d) whether the Government proposes to increase the allocation of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the backward districts of the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the efforts made by the Government to attain balanced development in the country.

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a)to(f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 263 REGARDING REGIONAL IMBALANCES WITHIN STATES BY SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH DUE FOR ANSWER ON 17.12.2008

(a) & (b): Planning Commission has not conducted any study/survey to detect regional imbalances that exist within each State of the country. However, an Inter-Ministry Task Group on Redressing Growing Regional Imbalances was set up which submitted its report in 2005. The recommendations of this Group were used to formulate the Backward Regions Grant Fund which covers 250 backward districts in all the States, except Goa.

(c): Despite the efforts made through various measures including the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, regional imbalances continue to exist owing to the sub-continental dimensions of the country with inherent differences in geographical parameters and historical developments which have led to disparities in the levels of development of different areas owing to differences in resource endowment, levels of infrastructure and socio-economic parameters.

(d) to (f): At present there is no such proposal. The specific scheme which aims at removal of regional imbalances that exist within States,is the Backward Regions Grant Fund which aims at catalyzing development in backward districts by: (a) providing infrastructure; (b) promoting good governance and agrarian reforms;(c) converging,through supplementary infrastructure and capacity building, the substantial existing development inflows into these districts.